VOL. 44.

OKOLONA, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1916

No 10.

#### Miss McDonnell Entertains in Honor of Miss Huggins

Miss Elizabeth McDonnell entertained a number of her friends Fellow Citizens;on Friday evening, February Huggins, of Jasper, Tenn.

The guests arrived at the appointed hour and were greeted little Miss Marion Donaldson Lyles, the charming daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Lyle.

Several games of Progressive a delightful salad course was little Miss Lyles.

At a late hour the guests took their departure declaring this a most enjoyable occasion and Miss McDonnell an ideal hostess.

Those present were Miss Huggins and Allen Dean, Miss Cora Berry and Archie McDonnell, Miss Wilhelmenia Deavenport and Kyle Lyons, Miss Blanche Edens and Clifford and J. S. McDonnell, Miss Clyde Bell and Tom Woodfin, Miss Frances Chandler and Paul Berry, Miss Margaret Smith and Jack Sansom, Miss Mary La-Grone and Albert Gunn, Miss Berdie Williams and Adam Gates, Miss Charline LaGrone and Dale Henson. Fred Mc-Donnell, Jr., and Clarence Cunningham.

#### Wedding of Much Interest to

A fashionable wedding will be solemnized at the opera house Friday night, March 10th.

The bride, Dr. J. A. Rutledge, will enter on the arm of her father, Judge Lacey, who will give her in marriage. The bride has chosen as her maid of honor Harry Fish, matron Tom Dean, bripe's maids Walton Murfee and Jim Stanford, flower girls Clarence Parchman and Howard Murphree, ring barer Master Lunce Hodges.

The groom, Mr. Charlie La-Grone, will be attended by Mr. Fred McDonnell, best man, Mr. J. S. Rowe and Dr. N. A. Love, groomsmen. Messrs Jesse Dawson and L. S. Brewster will serve as ushers. The impressive ring ceremony will be said by by the Rev. J. J. Riley.

Preceeding the ceremony Mr. Joe Nix will sing O Promise Me charmingly render I Love You Truly. Lohengrins bridal chorus will be sung by a vested choir consisting of Messrs Ellis, Abernethy, Henson and Fitzgerald.

Immediately after the ceremony the bride's mother, R. W. Chandler, will give a reception at the Okolona Carnegie Library, where the many friends of the happy couple may view the large collection of presents and cut the wedding cake.

Natable out of town guests will be the bride's aunt, Portor Davis, from Kalamazoo, with to pay. her charming twin daughters.

#### CASTORIA

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#### Water and Lights.

Okolons, Miss., February 25, 1916.

In attempting to increase the revenue of the City-made necessary by 25th, in honor of Miss Bessie bond issue to put in sewerage, good roads etc. by increasing the rate on water and lights, to my mind, is a mistake and altogether opposed to the whole scheme of taxation. Public utilities are intended to be operated for at the door by the genial, smil- the equal service of all the people at a minimum cost. Note the Post Office ing hostess. The ladies were department. This department is actually run at a loss each year in an effort shown to the cloak room by to make the expenses as light as possible on the people. They have been so painstaking in this matter in order that it can be put on as low operating basis as possible that a deficit occurs each year. These institutions come along in the same category as the Public Schools. They partake more of the Rook were enjoyed after which nature of philanthropy than a revenue getting scheme.

When the city found it had to increase its revenue to meet increased served by Miss McBeath and expenses, the proper method would have been an ad valorem tax. But the fact that water and light were metered, does not increase the sum of revenue. While this was evidently intended, it fails to serve the purpose. The only thing it does do, as now operated, is to shift the load of taxetion from the well-to-do man to the poor man. Not only does it put the actual increase in taxes on the poor man but it makes him pay for the meters and installation and up-keep, which will run up into the thousands of dollars. As an illustration, let us look at some figures. Take for a basis of calculation 300 water meters put in already. It is safe to assume that 60 per cent of these are one-faucet or moderate-meanes families, 20 per cent two-faucet or moderatemeans families, and 20 per cent 5- to 10-faucet or well-to-do families. We Chandler, Miss Omera McBeath all know that the one-faucet family's rate is doubled, that the two faucet family's rate is the sane, and I have been told by people with as many as eight faucets that the rate was just half what it was under the old order,

Now, in making the tabulation to follow I am giving the advantage to the opposition, because you will readily see, after going over them, that to decrease the one-fancet man and increase the 5- to 10-faucet man puts them in the hole worse than ever; every time you lose \$6.00 under the old order, by the change you gain \$45.00; under the new order every time you lose \$12.00

| rou gain \$21.00.  |      |         |           |
|--|------|---------|-----------|
| Old Order:   | mo.  | yr.     | Total     |
| 180 1-Faucet "moderate-means families"\$   | .50  | \$ 6.00 | \$1080.00 |
| 60 2-Faucet " " "  | 1.00 | 1200    | 720.00    |
| 60 5- if 10-Faucet well-to-do families, no '4  | 75   | 45,00   | 2700 00   |
| THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T |      | 100000  | CARDONA   |

| 60 5- if 10-Faucet well-to-do families, at "                     |             | 45,00 | 2700.00<br>\$4509.00   |
|--|-------------|-------|--|
| 180 1 Faucet maderate-means rationes                             | 1.00        | 12.00 | 720.00   |
| 60 2-Faucet<br>90 5- to 10-Faucet well-to-do families av 7½-fauc | econo minor |       | The second secon |

The 5- to 10-faucet-people pay by the thousand gallons, the others do not The total is less under the new order than the old. But note how the ratio changes from the well-to-do man to the moderate-means man-his taxes are increased \$1080.00 and the well-to-do man's decreased \$1260.00. This calculation is based only on 300 water meters; the city expects to put in several hundred more water meters and as many light meters. In other words, about 900 to 1000 meters, so you can see the amount will be increased about three times.

Under the minimum rate a men is allowed to use about 3300 gallons of water. The 1- and 2-faucet people never use that much, they use from 500 to 2000 gallons as a rule. They never use the amount allowed and von't when connected with sewerage. To put it in another light, the moderatemeans man pays from 50 cents to \$2,00 per thousand gallons for his vater while the well to-do man says 30 cents or less for his.

As has been stated, the very genius of taxation is to levy and effect taxes according to the wealth of the community or nation. That's why we have a national income tax, because wealth can afford to be taxed and lipited means cannot. Now while the difference in revenue is not great, so ir as the sum is concerned, the shifting of the load is where class legislation omes in. In an ad valorem tax every man pays according to his possessions and there is no way to slip up on the blind side.

As for the meters themselves although they will cost the people way up in the thousands-might as well dump them all in Matubba creek a for and Mr. Charlie Howell will the good they do as now operated. Take the one-faucet people. They ever use enough water to figure it on the thousand gallon basis. It's just a illar per month proposition straight. Why not make the rate a dollar per anth flat, and take the meter and put it in the well? The result would bothe same. The only difference being that it would be a little cheaper, as itsess something for up-keep and reading each month. And as to the metafor the well-to-do man, instead of being an asset for the city it is a liabilit It just helps him make his escape.

The result of the whole meter proposition as now operated w be about this: Cost of 900 meters, nine dollars apiece amounts to \$81,00. Added to this is up-keep, which will be considerable. Now the tax-rers have got to pay this in addition to the hond issues, interest etc. As swn by figures, 80 per cent of the 450 families who use the meters o360 will pay \$9720.00 and 20 per cent or 90 well-to-do families wibay \$2700.00. This amounts to something like three to four thousand cars increase per year on water and lights that the limited means man will sve

Now, fellow citizens, would you put a man's load on a boy's shoers and the boy's load on the man's shoulders? The idea of texation is put the boy's load where it belongs and the man's load where it belongs.

There will be held in your city on March the 21st, an election tree whether the city government will be changed to commission form or min Okolona, at the usual voting place, on as it is. If the commission form carries I shall be a candidate for Nor- Tuesday, the 21st day of March Commissioner. If it remains the same, I am, as you known a candidator Mayor. If you see lit to elect me in either case, I shall do all in my ler to put water and lights on a just and equitable basis, as well as put lomy best effort to the betterment of everything ecconomic or otherwise.

Very respectfully. R. L. FITZGERALD.

NOTE-I understand that J. S. W. Hawkins and R. W. Chandlerre not in favor of meters as now operated

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NOTICE OF ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held in the City of 1916, to determine the question, Shall the City of Okolona adopt the Commission form of Government, as provided for in Chapter 120, Page 107 of the Laws of Mississippi of 1912.

Witness my hand this Feb, 23, 1916. H. L. MORRISON,

Dr. N. A. Love. SURGEON MAN Office over First National Bank, Okolone, Mississippi. Telephone 35

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